

ARE HOME ONCE MORE

Mrs. M. C. Flavel and Daughters
Arrive in Astoria.

DIRECT FROM SAN FRANCISCO

Vivid Story of Perils Escaped in the
Doomed Metropolis—Details of the
Great Fire—Existence Under
Stern Conditions.

After six days of extraordinary stress and anxiety, Mrs. M. C. Flavel and her daughters, the Misses Nellie and Katie Flavel, alighted from the 11:30 express in this city yesterday and drove immediately to their Eighth street home, where for hour after hour they were recipients of congratulation and welcome delivered in person, and by the telephone from all parts of the city.

Later in the afternoon the ladies unfolded to a reporter of the Morning Astorian a trenchant history of the dreadful hours spent in the despoiled city of San Francisco, from the moment of the occurrence of the awful earthquake to the hour of their departure thence. The details fully warrant the long and deep apprehension felt here for their safety, by their brother, Captain George C. Flavel and his family, and the host of friends who dwell here.

It seems the ladies were occupying a suite of rooms in the Occidental Hotel, one of the oldest and most famous of the swell hostleries of the coast metropolis, and were awakened by the falling of the plaster from the ceiling and walls of their apartments, and were instantly conscious of the nature of the visitation, having been in earthquakes before, both in far Japan, and in the same city then under attack. This, of course, was the severest of their experiences, and the rocking house, the pounding windows the grinding of bricks and stucco, the neighboring crashes from buildings less firm on their foundations than the old Occidental, soon gave them assurance at once certain and terrifying, that they were in the midst of an incalculable and formidable evil. But, despite the fearful con-

victions that assailed them they never lost presence of mind for a moment but clung to each other in despairing courage until the twenty-eight dreadful seconds of the tremor's duration had passed; then, finding themselves uninjured, and the great house still standing, they proceeded to dress carefully and comfortably, and left their rooms for light and freedom of the open day.

En route through the halls and corridors and the stairways of the house they met their fellow guests, in hundreds, swarming out to the streets in search of some surcease from the fears and sensations with which they were all furnished.

The Flavel ladies made straight for Union Square, one of the prettiest and smallest of the public grounds in the city, but very popular, and well down town and here they found thousands of others who had fled from the adjacent homes and hotels, and all eager to be beyond the reach of falling walls and towers. Every one seemed to be possessed with the kindest and most courteous feelings, and a sort of reverential impression was evident on all sides. After waiting here for several hours, appalled and almost stunned with the growing uproar of the beleaguered city and its gathering and passing thousands, and hearing that their hotel was yet standing, they finally went back to the Occidental to secure what might be carried thence in the hands and arms.

They entered the house with trepidation, for it was known to have been badly wrecked and strained, and cautiously, yet quickly mounted the stairs, accompanied by the house keeper. Entering their rooms they hastily gathered up such convenient and serviceable things as they needed and packed the rest in their trunks and locked them leaving the room as soon as they possibly could, and returned to the square and stood for a while debating their next move. The wreck of the Lick House, which they noted on the way, and the sights and rumors and evidences of the accumulating horrors all about them, made them determine to take any chances that offered for getting to the western division of the city; and to this end they made instant use of a carriage which had been commandeered by a gentleman near-by, and who consented to share the vehicle with them. Once in possession of this opportunity for flight, they felt comparatively safe and after dropping their fellow traveler at his destination, they proceeded to the home of Mrs. A. M. Simpson, on

Broadway, near Divisadero, where they were accorded a heartfelt welcome by that lady and were soon in comparative quiet and comfort. They were three of eighteen guests that this good friend and woman had taken in, in this awful emergency, and when another friend, a Mr. R. F. Van Winkle passed the house, saw, and recognized them, and insisted that they come on to the home of his mother, some ten blocks beyond the Simpson home, they did not hesitate, but went with him, and found additional welcome at that home in the western addition.

Here they stayed for several hours, and shared the grateful sense of happiness and security that came from their further removal from the line of conflagration that was raging all over the territory they had but so lately traversed. But this idea of safety was dispelled after a short time for the volume and trend of the fire showed that it was encroaching on even this remote ground, and they then made their timid sortie, still further to the westward, to the home of Mr. Van Winkle himself, where they really were in absolute security and where their welcome was abundant at the hands of all. Here they rested until they left the city on Saturday, and from this point of vantage they saw and heard those things that go to swell the dread and horror of such a calamity.

Here, even in the seclusion of a home far removed from the turmoil and danger of the hour, they found the rigid rules of martial law in full and forceful operation, even as it was enforced in the districts engaged in the fire. There was no water, except at guarded points in the neighborhood; lights were not permitted on the premises at all, except the beggarly flame of one candle to the house, in the faint rays of which all the things that must be done after darkness sets in, were done, for one night only, for on the second night, even this was denied them by the authorities on the ground that a woman further down town had already started another district into flames by the careless handling of a curtain; nor was fire permitted in any of the houses; stoves and cooking, were imposed under the reign of a law that knows no one and mitigates nothing to anyone.

Mrs. Flavel was the victim on an incident that was severe enough in its outcome and yet smacking of a touch of humor, while a guest in this kindly home. The water that was furnished to this neighborhood, was at some distance from the house, and as she essayed forth to obtain a cup of water the air was surcharged with millions of flying cinders from the distant fires and one of them lodged in her eye. When she approached the source of supply, a cupful was handed her and she dipped the corner of her handkerchief into it to bathe her hurting eye, and set the cup on the ground till she was ready to drink it; but it was no sooner on the ground than a stray dog lapped up the last drop with an avidity that compensated Mrs. Flavel for the loss of the beverage. The loss was made good instantly, however and she returned to the house.

No one dared to sleep above the first floor of their homes, and thousands slept on their porches and on the floors, and all with garments at hand and pathways cleared to the exits, for no one knew at what moment the fire would drive them forth those the ladies are glad to report that none of the three homes that contributed to their safety was lost in the holocaust of flame that swept the city from the earth.

On Saturday about noon they concluded to sally forth on their route home, and engaged a handsome "break" and a forlorn team, for a fabulous price to carry them to the Oakland ferry at the foot of Market street, and after bidding a grateful farewell to their kind host and his family they started with their trunks, (which had been cleverly saved from the Occidental), by Mr. Van Winkle, acting upon the Governor's pass, on the very day of their departure from that hotel, and but a few moments before it was turned over to the dynamiters for demolition) on the eight mile ride through the desolated city. There were no street lines only vague lines and lanes through great masses of debris and mountains of ashes still glowing in sullen wrath at being balked of further chance to do ruin. Slowly, and with infinite patience their driver piloted them down through the awful scenes of death and devastation that had blasted the great city from the eyes of all men. With towering wrecks of buildings threatening them on all sides, in the heat and glare and stifling smoke and floating ash from the still burning debris that marked the hidden highways, sick and distressed beyond expression at the awful sights that confronted them, they finally reached the great ferry, and with thousands of others making the same fight, they crossed to Oakland, and then took the train that was to carry them homeward, and far from the place where they had seen and felt so much of dread, and deprivation and misery.

SEE AWFUL SIGHTS

The Misses Magee Relate Graphic
Experience.

HUNDREDS PEOPLE KILLED

Young Ladies Compelled to Sleep in
Cemetery All Night—Thieves
Are Shot Without Mercy by
the Soldiers.

After undergoing terrible hardships, and witnessing the unutterable horrors of the earthquake and fire, that devastated San Francisco, the Misses Anna and Belle Magee arrived home last evening, thankful to escape with their lives and return once more to the land where such catastrophes never happen.

They relate a graphic account of their experiences and in spite of what they saw and endured are none the worse for their trying time.

They say that when the first shock came they were asleep in a house at 1259 O'Farrell street, located three blocks above Van Ness avenue, and were awakened by being literally thrown across the room.

"We were terribly frightened," said Miss Anna Magee, "last night in referring to the subject, and for a time hardly knew what had occurred. Every article of furniture in the room was upset and smashed, and even the doors throughout the building which were locked flew open.

Without waiting to dress Belle and myself ran into the street, with bricks and stones flying all about us. The street was already crowded with frightened and hysterical women, who shrieked and moaned, crying that the end of the world had come, and adding to the horror of the scene. Fires also were beginning to blaze in every direction.

"We remained about an hour out doors, and then hastened back into the houses where we collected what clothes we could and escaped. We thought to take the train to San Jose, and made our way with the utmost difficulty to the depot, only to learn from the conductor that that city was all gone, and to be told that Portland was engulfed by a tidal wave, Chicago and Denver destroyed and New York city in flames.

"Of course by this time we were thoroughly terrified, and believed the assertion of the conductor that the end had come. Finding that we could not leave the city tired as we were we walked back to our rooming place. Every block we would be stopped by soldiers and warned not to go in that direction, and if we had obeyed all the orders which we received we would probably have been compelled to jump into the bay, as that seemed to be the only thing which wasn't on fire, according to the military.

When we reached our house, it was about noon and we found the Chinese cook calmly building a fire in the kitchen stove preparatory to cooking dinner. He was compelled to desist at once, as the chimney was down and fires of any kind were positively forbidden to be lit.

"That night we slept in Calvary cemetery. It was awful. Wailing women and children crowded together watched the red flames leaping across the heavens every moment seemingly approaching nearer. Many tried to leave, but sentries posted all around stopped any one who did so. In the morning, the fire was even worse, and tired and hungry, for we had nothing to eat except a few crusts of bread, and one cup of water, which went the rounds of 12 girls, we started for the ferry. Time and again we almost fainted for the sights which met us were sickening. Many times we stepped over dead bodies; some had been shot by the soldiers, and others killed by falling walls. The fire too raged all around us, and soldiers ordered us back, until we prevailed upon them to let us pass.

"Had it not been for a fortunate chance, we might never have reached the ferry for just as we had abandoned our suit cases, and about given up hope four gentlemen met us, whom we knew, and with their aid we reached the ferry. After a long wait we managed to cross to the Oakland side where we met friends who cared for us. Every town which we stopped at on our way north treated us royally."

Probably the most terrible occurrence which the Misses Magee narrate, is that when the fire first started many injured were taken to the Mechanics pavilion. Finally the fire reached this building, in which there were 350 patients. As fast as possible the inmates were carried out but the fire was swifter, and when over fifty persons, men, women, and little children, were still remain-

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ing within the fire cut off all chances of saving them, and to prevent them being burned alive doctors ran hurriedly through the lines of injured and chloroformed every one.

Dead animals by the hundreds lay about the streets, but these were removed by the authorities as fast as possible. "One dog went mad and was shot by a soldier close to us," said Miss Anna Magee, "and similar occurrences were constantly happening. The lack of water caused the greatest suffering."

Mrs. J. W. Darragh and daughter Belle returned last night from San Francisco. They were exceedingly lucky in the fire for they were stopping on board the Spreeles tug Defiance.

CLATSOP TEACHERS HERE.

Three Day Session of the Institute Begins Today.

At ten o'clock this morning at the McClure school building in this city, the Clatsop County Teachers Institute will begin a three day session, under the direction of the County Superintendent of Schools, Miss Emma C. Warren.

A group of distinguished educators from other parts of the state will be in attendance and the session has every promise of a valuable and interesting issue.

Among the expected guests will be: State Superintendent, J. H. Ackerman; R. F. Robinson, Multnomah's Superintendent; Mrs. K. E. Sloan, of Portland, author of certain popular school text books, and Miss Cornelia Marvin, the secretary of the state library commission.

The following is the program for this Wednesday, in full:

Wednesday, A. M.
9:00 opening song, "America."
Opening of institute: Miss E. C. Warren, Superintendent of Clatsop County Schools.
9:10. "Course of Study," J. H. Ackerman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
9:50. "Geography," R. F. Robinson, Superintendent of Multnomah County.
10:30. Recess. Chorus "Ocean Spray" Richards. Pupils from McClure and Taylor schools.
10:40. "Primary Reading," Miss K. E. Sloan of Portland, author of the Sloan Readers.
11:20. "United States History," J. H. Ackerman.
Noon Recess.
WEDNESDAY P. M.
1:30. Song, "Auld Lang Syne."
1:45. "Language," R. F. Robinson.
Vocal Solo, Miss Shively.
2:30. "Primary Numbers," Miss K. E. Sloan.
Instrumental Solo, Miss Mary Adair.
3:10. Recess.
3:20. Administration and records.

On Wednesday evening at eight o'clock at the residence of Mrs. Geahart, corner of eighth street and Grand Avenue the teachers of Astoria will give a reception in honor of the instructors and visiting teachers.

WILL RAISE BIG AMOUNT.

BALTIMORE, April 24.—From the offices of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F. in this city has gone out an appeal to every grand lodge and grand encampment of the order in North America for aid for those who suffered from the California disaster. A fund of at least \$300,000 is expected.

Chamberlain's Salve.

This salve is intended especially for sore nipples, burns, frost bites, chapped hands, itching piles, chronic sore eyes, granulated eye lids, old chronic sores and for diseases of the skin, such as tetter, salt rheum, ring worm, scald head, herpes, barbers' itch, scabies or itch and eczema. It has met with unparalleled success in the treatment of these diseases. Price 25 cents per box. Try it. For sale by Frank Hart and Leading Druggists.

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A special representative from Strauss Bros., Chicago, master tailors, will be at C. H. Cooper's on Friday, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, April 20th, 21st, 23rd and 24th. Now is the time to order your new suit; you can't help but find a pattern to please you perfectly in this line of woollens conceded to be the largest and finest in America.

Gray will be the most popular coloring for Spring. 150 varieties of gray patterns, such as overplaid, diagonals and plain weaves, as well as an immense assortment of other tasty colorings and a large range of black and blue goods all of which will be worn by good dressers this Spring. Can be seen only at C. H. Cooper's on April 20th to 24th.

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French Prunes, small Sizes, 10 lbs 50c

Pink Beans, 25 lbs for - - - \$1.00

Water Witch Soap, 12 boxes - 50c

Bananas, per dozen - - - 25c

Prepared Mustard, 6 oz Jars, 3 for 25c

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